Construction of Thalassery-Mahe bypass in Kerala

2276. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the construction of Thalassery-Mahe bypass starting from Muzhappilangad in Kannur district and joining at Azhiyoor in Kozhikode district of total length 18.031 km in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of the project and the progress so far made in its implementation;

(c) whether it is a fact that the land acquisition of the second phase of the project is progressing at a slow pace; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to speed up the land acquisition and early construction of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction of Thalassery-Mahe bypass has been included in the project of 4-laning of Kannur-Vengalam (Kozhikode district) section of NH 17 in Kerala (Km 148.00 to km 230.00) under National Highway Development Project (NHDP)-Phase III. The Letter of Award (LOA) has already been issued to lowest bidder. Presently land acquisition is in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Inclusion of Thrissur-Kanyakumari stretch under NHDP

2277. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has agreed to include Thrissur-Kanyakumari stretch in the proposed National Expressway Network under the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP);

(b) if so, whether the Kerala Government has requested the Centre to extend this stretch upto Kasargod so as to cover the entire length of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministry had awarded a Consultancy Services for Formulation of a Master Plan for the National Expressway Network in the country. The Final

Report submitted by the Consultants, duly considering the views/observations received from the State Governments and *inter-alia* recommending development of total Expressway Network of about 18,637 km, has been accepted by the Government. State Government of Kerala had requested for extending the National Expressway from Thrissur to Kasargod and Mangalore. However, from overall perspective of broad integration of the Expressway Network in the entire country and keeping in view the existing connectivity, the Final Report has *inter-alia* recommended to include Thrissur-Kanyakumari stretch in the proposed National Expressway Network.

Review of progress of NH projects in Andhra Pradesh

2278. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to review the progress of various National Highway projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the fund allocated and spent thereon;

(c) the details of National Highway projects undertaken/proposed to be undertaken in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and current year, project-wise;

(d) the status of each project; and

(e) the time-frame fixed for the completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Projects are reviewed quarterly and even earlier, for progress, bottlenecks and completion targets. Details of National Highway Projects undertaken/proposed to be undertaken in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last 3 years and current year is given in Statement.